

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/700,456

Examiner

Robert R. Koehler

Applicant(s)

LIU, WEN-CHIH

Art Unit

1775

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the originally-filed application papers of November 5, 2003.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☒ Other "Marked-Up Copy of Claim 1"

Robert R. Koehler

ROBERT R. KOEHLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

ART UNIT 1775

DETAILED ACTION***Informal Examiner's Amendment***

The following informal Examiner's Amendment has been made in the claims. The Examiner has noted that the first word in line 1 of claim 1 does not begin with a capital letter. The Examiner has corrected this minor grammatical error by deleting "a" and inserting --A-- in its place. A marked-up copy of claim 1 is included with this Office action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 to 3 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art search has not produced any references which teach, suggest, or disclose applicant's claimed bi-color, rust-proof barrier layer structure of a tool head which comprises a recessed section and a surrounding surface on the tool head that are electroplated or dyed to produce a bi-colored structure. The prior art does not teach or reasonably suggest that the first barrier layer on the surface of the tool head *is removed such that the recessed section still possesses the first color of the barrier layer, and that a second electroplating step or a second dyeing step produces a barrier layer on the surrounding surface of the tool head having a second color.* Also, the prior art does not teach or reasonably suggest the production of a single rust-proof barrier layer structure on a tool head having regions with two different colors. U.S. Patent No. 5,230,965 (Cole, Jr., et al.) teaches a method and a product of selective electrolytic deposition on either conductive or non-conductive substrates. The patent does not teach or reasonably suggest that only one electroplated layer on the substrate could possess a complex plating structure having at least two distinct colors as claimed by the applicant.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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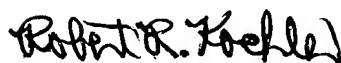
fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Robert Koehler whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1536**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM. The Examiner can also be reached on alternate Mondays.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Deborah Jones, can be reached on **(571) 272-1535**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **703-872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).



**ROBERT R. KOEHLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**Art Unit 1775
May 16, 2004**

a Marked-Up Copy of Claim 1st

Claims

- 5-16-04. ~~OK~~ A
1. A bi-color rust-proof barrier layer structure of a tool head, especially a bi-color rust-proof barrier layer structure of which a surface is formed with a strip of recessed surrounding section marked with a size, a model, trademark and the like, which is characterized in that a surrounding surface of the tool head and the strip of surrounding recessed section are in advance electroplated or dyed with the rust-proof barrier layer of a specified color and then the rust-proof barrier layer on the surface of the tool head is removed so that the strip of surrounding recessed section is still maintained with the color of the rust-proof barrier layer before treated; after the tool head is put in an electroplating bath for one more "electroplating on another barrier layer" or in a dyeing tank for one more "dyeing on another barrier layer" so that another colored barrier layer may be formed on the surface with a portion provided with the rust-proof barrier layer removed before, thereby allowing the color of the rust-proof barrier layer of the tool head serving as a foil to the different 2-color structure of the strip of surrounding recessed section.
2. The bi-color rust-proof barrier layer structure of the tool head according to claim 1, wherein the surface of the tool head is formed with the recessed section for implementation of the rust-proof barrier layer structure of different two colors.
3. The bi-color rust-proof barrier layer structure of the tool head according to claim 1, wherein the bi-color rust-proof barrier layer structure may be implemented as an electroplated layer with a dyed layer, an electroplated layer with an electroplated layer, or a dyed layer with a dyed layer.